(i) Promotion of collection, collation and publication of information regarding availability of waste, technologies for waste and markets for recoverable materials.

(ii) Analysis of information for overcoming constraints to commercialisation of available technologies for both waste utilisation and waste minimisation and identification of areas in which new technologies need to be developed.

(iii) Rendering advice to the Government, industry and such other sectors as may seek their advice on various aspects of waste management and on incentives/disincentives.

(iv) Recommending research and development schemes for developing new technologies.

(v) Promotion of measures to create awareness among those concerned.

(vi) Advise Government on fiscal/regulatory measures to promote waste minimisation and utilisation.

(c) The council is an advisory and promotional body for waste management, focussing on minimisation of waste. As a foral organisation the council will seek to achieve its objectives by coordinating the activities of different sectors of the economy, primarily through exchange of information. Through inter-ministerial inter-actions, and with the participation of industrial associations and other non governmental organisations, it ould make appropriate recommentions to the Government for any legislative, regulatory or fiscal measures needed to promote waste minimisation and waste utilisation.

Starting of Research and Development Centres for electronic industry

449. SHRI SHANTI TYAGI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to start Research and Development Centres in some States to help the electronic industry, particularly the small-scale industries in the country;

(b) if so, the names of the States and the place of location of these centres; and

(c) by when those centres would start functioning?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (DR. RAJA RAMANNA): (a) to (c) Four new Electronics Research & Development Centres (ER&DCs) have been established in addition to the existing ER&DC in Trivandrum as per details below:

(i) ER&DC, Calcutta in West Bengal.

(ii) ER&DC, Lucknow in Uttar Pradesh.

(iii) ER&DC, Mohali in Punjab.

(iv) ER&DC, Pune in Maharashtra.

The new ER&DCs will start providing services to the Electronics Industry by the end of the current financial year. It is planned that each ER&DC will cover the needs of several States in the particular Region.

Under the Standardisation Testing and Quality Control (STQC) programme of the Department of Electronics, 4 Electronics Regional Test Laboratories (ERTLs) and 16 Electronics Test and Development Centres (ETDCs) have been established for implementing standardisation and certification schemes for electronics industry in the country.

In addition to above, Department of Electronics is also providing assistance for setting up of Rural Electronics Technology Centre at Jaipur, Rajasthan.